4. the Vakil or Vakils who appeared and conducted the cases on either side ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—1, 2, 3 and 4. Vide the statement placed on the Council Secretary's table.

Sub-Magistrate Mr. P. Govindan Nayar.

452. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

has the District Magistrate or the Diwan received any complaints that the Sub-Magistrate of Ernakulam, Mr. P. Govindan Nayar, is often staying as a guest in the house of his neighbour, Mr. Kakathparambil Raman Menon, a Criminal Vakil practising in his court, and that Mr. Govindan Nayar is treating this Criminal Vakil as a special favourite of his in the exercise of his magisterial functions ;

if the answer is in the affirmative, how many such petitions were signed, and what was the number of signatories in each ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No.

453. Mr. M. K. Raman.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

in the time of the Diwanship of Mr. (now Sir) T. Vijayaraghavachariar, was there any complaint against this Magistrate, Mr. P. Govindan Nayar, that he is showing communal partialities, favouring his own communities and ill-treating members of the Ezhuva communities ;

was any explanation taken from Mr. P. Govindan Nayar in that connection ; how has that matter been disposed ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—A petition was received in connection with the Thanisseri riot.

No explanation was taken. On perusing the judgment of the District Magistrate, the Diwan found that the Magistrate was not to blame.

454. Mr. M. K. Raman.— Will the Government be pleased to state.—

1. how many petitions were received by the District Magistrate, the Diwan and His Highness the Maharaja against Mr. P. Govindan Nayar regarding his misconduct and partiality, etc., while he was the Magistrate of Cranganur ; was any action taken upon those petitions ; what was the cause of his transfer from Cranganur ;

2. how many similar petitions were received against him by the Diwan and the District Magistrate and His Highness the Maharaja while he was the Sub-Magistrate of Irinjalakkuda ; was any action taken upon them ; if so, with what result ;

3. how many petitions have been received, and on the whole, how many persons have complained about Mr. P. Govindan Nayar from the beginning of his career as Sub-Magistrate up to now ;

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4. how many complaints about his partialities in his official duties and how many about his personal character ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Government do not consider it worth while to go through the records of so many years to find out the information sought.

From the files forthcoming, it is found that there were complaints against the Sub-Magistrate, and that they were found to be groundless. His transfer from Cranganur was in the exigencies of service and not on account of any petition.

455. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

have the Government come to know that parties who appear in his court are complaining to the District Magistrate and to other authorities that Mr. P. Govindan Nayar is showing undue favour to certain class of women who figure as parties in his court; if the answer is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to make enquiries in the matter?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—A petition to transfer a case in which the interpellating Member appeared as a Vakil was recently received by the District Magistrate containing allegations of the sort adverted to in the question. The District Magistrate characterised the allegations as absolutely unfounded. No other petitions have been received.

456. Mr. M. K. Raman.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) has it come to the notice of the Government that a suit has been filed by a Nayar woman of Perumanur, Ernakulam, against Mr. P. Govindan Nayar, Sub-Magistrate, claiming maintenance from him, and that Mr. Govindan Nayar made a private settlement with her evidencing the transaction by a registered document, paying her a certain sum of money to hush her up;

(b) if the answer is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to make enquiries in the matter, inasmuch as Mr. Govindan Nayar is an officer of the Government, armed with magisterial authorities, the proper exercise of which will be very much influenced by the state of his conscience ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) This part of the question refers to the conduct of the Sub-Magistrate in his private capacity, and is removed from the cognisance of the Council by Rule 8 (c) of the Cochin Legislative Council Rules.

(b) The question is hypothetical and cannot be answered.

The vending of arrack and toddy.

457. Mr. A B. Saiem.—Will the Government Member for Excise be pleased to state:—

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